REMARKS

Interview Record OK. 5/22/06

The courtesy of the Examiner in granting a telephone interview on April 14, 2006 is acknowledged with sincere appreciation. During the interview, the Examiner suggested that special definitions for the splines should be included in the claims. The Examiner indicated that such special definitions may render Applicant's claims distinguishable over the prior art references.

The specification was amended to define the splines as being "any of a series of projections on the part or shaft that fit together into grooves or slots on a corresponding shaft, enabling both to rotate together".

Claim 1 has been amended to define the splines as "projections on said body that cooperate with slots on a corresponding shaft enabling cooperative rotation ".

Claims 8-16 have been withdrawn as a result of an earlier restriction requirement.

Claims 1-4, 7, and 17-18 remain in the application.

No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-4, 17, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harsch (U.S. Patent 5,315,805). The Examiner stated:

> "Harsch disclose (Fig.1) a splined component (10) for transmitting torque comprising: a main body (inner cylindrical portion of 10) of formable metal (aluminum, col. 1, lines 50-51) having a longitudinal axis; a plurality of spaced apart splines (11) of said formable metal extending away from said body and being generally parallel to the axis of said body, and a plurality of small raised portions (side portions of 20) of said formable metal extending away from said main body and being generally parallel to the axis of the body, the splines, raised portion, and body are integral and homogenous.
> Claim 2. Harsch disclose that said main body is hollow (col. 3 lines 66-68).
> Claim 3. Harsch disclose that said splines extend inwardly (from raised portions toward main body).
> Claim 4. Harsch. disclose that said raised portion is uninterrupted.
> Claim 17. Harsch discloses that the raised portions are disposed between said spaced apart splines.
> Claim 18. Harsch discloses that the raised portions are disposed on the surface of said spaced apart splines."

In accordance with the helpful suggestions of the Examiner, the Applicant has amended Claim 1 to include the limitation that the splines are projections on said body that cooperate with slots on a corresponding shaft enabling cooperative rotation. Harsch shows a structure wherein cross-sectionally shaped T webs 11 terminate in thickened ends 20. The cross-sectionally shaped T webs 11 shown are included in a support shaped section 10 and are used to detachably affix at least one beam for supporting wall/ceiling segments (Col. 1 lines 18-21). In the structure shown by Harsch, lateral retaining elements 15, 16 that terminate in a